

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 12034 ACTION SECSTATE INFO

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD 30 JUL 76

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12034

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT:SOVIET PROTEST NOTE REGARDING "CIA PROVOCATION"

1. CHETVERIKOV OF MFA USA DIVISION CALLED IN THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR AFTERNOON JULY 29 TO PRESENT NOTE OFFICIALLY PROTESTING ALLEGED "CALCULATED, ORGANIZED PROVOCATION" BY CIA AGENTS AGAINST SMUN SECOND SECRETARY O. V. KHARCHENKO IN NEW YORK CITY JULY 16. POL COUNSELOR SAID HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THESE ALLEGATIONS SINCE HE KNEW NOTHING AT ALL OF ANY SUCH INCIDENT, BUT WOULD OF COURSE INFORM DEPARTMENT OF MFA'S DEMARCHE. TEXT OF NOTE IS GIVEN BELOW; COPIES OF ORIGINAL ARE BEING POUCHED TO EUR/SOV AND USUN.

2. BEGIN TEXT. NO. 42/OSSHA. THE MINISTRY OF FOREGIN AFFAIRS PRESENTS ITS COMPLEMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE USA AND CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY TO INFORM THE EMBASSY OF THE FOLLOWING.

ON JULY 16, IN NEW YORK, A CRUDE PROVOCATION WAS PERPETRATED AGAINST SECOND SECRETARY OF THE SOVIET UN
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MISSION O. V. KHARCHENKO BY REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN

INTELLIGENCE SERVICES.

IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR KHARCHENKO, WHO WAS ASSIGNED TO THE SOVIET PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE DURING THE LATTER'S STAY IN AN AMERICAN HOSPITAL, BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH POLICE DETECTIVES O'BRIEN AND O'ROURK, WHO WERE ON GUARD DUTY AT THE HOSPITAL. THIS ACQUAINTANCESHIP WAS OF A PURELY BUSINESSLIKE NATURE AND AFTERWARDS WAS ENDED.

HOWEVER, ON JULY 16 O'BRIEN INVITED KHARCHENKO TO THE HILTON HOTEL, INDICATING THIS WOULD BE A BUSINESS MEETING. AT THE HOTEL KHARCHENKO WAS MET BY TWO UNKNOWN INDIVIDUALS IN ADDITION TO O'BRIEN, AND THESE TWO INDIVIDUALS ENTERED INTO CONVERSATIONS WITH KHARCHENKO. THEY OPENLY INTRODUCED THEMSELVES AS CIA AGENTS AND BEGAN TO THREATEN KHARCHENKO WITH DAMAGE TO HIS OFFICIAL CAREER IF HE DID NOT AGREE TO COOPERATE WITH AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE. THEY PROPOSED THAT HE MEET AGAIN WITH THEM THE EVENING OF JULY 19.

THUS ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS AFFAIR CLEARLY INDICATE THAT WE ARE SPEAKING OF A CALCULATED, ORGANIZED PROVOCATION AGAINST A SOVIET DIPLOMAT BY AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROTESTS THIS HOSTILE ACTION AGAINST A MEMBER OF A SOVIET ESTABLISHMENT IN THE USA AND DEMANDS THAT THE AMERICAN SIDE TAKE MEASURES TO BAN SIMILAR INCIDENTS.

MOSCOW, JULY 29, 1976. END TEXT. MATLOCK
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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